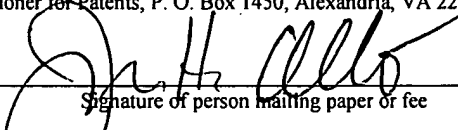


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of: )  
)  
Stephen Hammond et al. )  
)  
Serial No. New Application )  
)  
Filed January 27, 2004 )  
)  
METHOD FOR CARBURIZING )  
STEEL COMPONENTS )

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

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